

Screven County

Screven County was first organized from parts of Burke and Effingham counties in 1793. It had been part of the colonial parishes of Saint Matthew and Saint Phillips. Later Screven County gave up part of its territory to form Bulloch and Jenkins counties. Screven County was the fourteenth county created, and it was named for General James Screven, a Revolutionary War leader.

The first county seat and courthouse was the home of Benjamin Lanier at what is now Rocky Ford on the Ogeechee River, the western boundary of the county. The now extinct town of Jacksonboro followed Rocky Ford as county seat, and finally the government moved to Sylvania which had been founded in 1845, its name derived from the Latin word meaning forest. Courthouses at Sylvania have been destroyed by fire twice – in 1860 and in 1896.

The Revolutionary War Battle of Brier Creek took place in Screven County March 3, 1779 when British troops attacking through a swamp routed American forces.

President George Washington lodged at the Inn of Stephen Calfrey Pearce in Screven County in the spring of 1791. The Pearce family reportedly prepared lavishly for his visit and would accept no payment from the President.

Source: Foundations of Government - The Georgia Counties, Association County Commissioners of Georgia, 1976.

News In This County

Rep. Barrow's Natural Gas Reform Proposals Win Passage in House Agriculture Committee

December 7, 2005

Washington, DC –
At a full meeting of the House Agriculture Committee, Georgia Congressman John Barrow (12th District) today secured a big win for consumers of natural gas when his energy market reform amendment passed the Committee unanimously. Barrow's proposals will bring some transparency to the natural gas market and help crack down on individuals or corporations that deliberately gouge consumers by inflating natural gas prices for personal profit.

Barrow Tours Drought Damaged Farms; Calls for Greater Federal Drought Assistance

August 31, 2006

Savannah, GA –

On Wednesday, 12th District Georgia Congressman John Barrow (D-Savannah) and Georgia Agricultural Commissioner Tommy Irvin met with Screven County farmers to talk about the effect this year's drought is having on family farmers and rural communities across Georgia. Both Barrow and Irvin later toured local cotton, corn, peanut, and soybean farms to see the drought conditions first hand.

Rep. John Barrow Announces Upcoming Rural Listening Tour

May 26, 2005

On

Wednesday, June 1st, Congressman John Barrow (D-GA) will launch a three day listening tour, visiting rural and agricultural communities across Georgia's 12th Congressional District. The tour will visit 9 counties – Taliaferro, Warren, Glascock, Jefferson, Burke, Jenkins, Bulloch, Screven, and Effingham County.

Barrow Applauds USDA Decision to Suspend FSA Office Closure Plan

October 19, 2005

Washington, DC –

Georgia Congressman John Barrow (12th District) today issued the following statement in response to the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) decision to set aside its "FSA Tomorrow" plan, a controversial proposal that would have closed and consolidated 665 Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices nationwide:

Congressman Barrow Announces Upcoming Veterans Town Hall Tour

February 14, 2006

Washington, DC –
12th District Georgia Congressman John Barrow (D-Savannah) wants to hear from veterans across the 12th District. Starting on Tuesday, February 21st, Rep. Barrow will launch a three-day Veterans Town Hall Tour with 8 public forums planned in Athens, Augusta, Warrenton, Louisville, Waynesboro, Sylvania, Savannah, and Statesboro.

Barrow Talks Natural Gas, Fertilizer Prices with Screven County Residents

April 18, 2005

Sylvania,
GA – Standing on the bed of a low-boy trailer out front of Boddiford Farm Services, 12th District Congressman John Barrow (D-GA) yesterday spoke to a group of Georgia farmers and local area residents about the steps he’s taking in Congress to help bring some much needed stability and predictability to the nation’s natural gas prices.

Barrow Invites Georgia Farmer to Testify Before Congress

March 17, 2005

Washington, DC
- At the invitation of 12th District Congressman John Barrow (D-GA), Georgia farmer Ben Boyd testified today before Congress, delivering a first hand account of the negative impact rising natural gas and fertilizer prices are having on our nation’s family farmers.

Three 12th District Fire Departments to Receive Over \$1.1 Million in Homeland Security Grants

November 1, 2005

Washington, DC –
12th District Congressman John Barrow (D-GA) announced today that the Screven County Fire Department, Avera Volunteer Fire Department, and Southside Communities Fire Protection, Inc., in Savannah have been

awarded grants in the combined amount of \$1,101,218 from the United States Department of Homeland Security's Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program (AFGP). The grants help provide for additional training and personal protective equipment.

Congressman John Barrow Announces Upcoming 2006 Rural Listening Tour

April 13, 2006

Savannah, GA – 12th District Georgia Congressman John Barrow (D-Savannah) today announced the schedule for his upcoming 2006 12th District Rural Listening Tour. Starting on Wednesday, April 19th, Barrow will launch his now annual three-day listening tour, visiting rural and agricultural communities across Georgia's 12th Congressional District. The tour will visit 8 counties – Taliaferro, Glascock, Jefferson, Burke, Jenkins, Bulloch, Screven, and Effingham.